

CLAIMS

1. A method of providing an electronic order confirmation in an electronic transaction, comprising:

5 electronically receiving a sales order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic environment;

10 obtaining an electronic order confirmation, comprising an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery, within the private electronic environment while the purchase waits; and

15 automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the private electronic environment to the public electronic environment for providing to the purchaser.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a front end application, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a back end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by the back end ERP application the sales order from the front end application, wherein the obtaining comprises obtaining the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application, and wherein the automatically returning comprises automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application to the front end application.

20 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware.

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4. The method of claim 3, further comprising electronically sending a command to the ERP application from the messaging middleware.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES and the ERP application comprises SAP.

5 6. The method of claim 3, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MSMQ.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the ERP application comprises SAP.
9. The method of claim 2, wherein the ERP application comprises BAAN.
10. The method of claim 2, wherein the front end application comprises a browser.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a global computer network.

15 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by the ERP application the sales order from messaging middleware, and wherein the automatically returning comprises:

sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging middleware;

forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a global computer network site server on the global computer network; and

returning the electronic order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser.

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- 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising encrypting and decrypting the electronic order confirmation between the browser and the global computer network site server.
- 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the sales order is for a made-to-order item.
- 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the sales order is for an out-of-stock item.

16. A system for providing an electronic order confirmation in an electronic transaction, comprising:

means for electronically receiving a sales order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic environment;

5 means for obtaining an electronic order confirmation, comprising an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery, within the private electronic environment while the purchase waits; and

means for automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the private electronic environment to the public electronic environment for providing to the purchaser.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a front end application, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a back end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application, wherein the means for electronically receiving comprises means for electronically receiving by the back end ERP application the

15 sales order from the front end application, wherein the means for obtaining comprises the back end ERP application, and wherein the means for automatically returning comprises means for automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application to the front end application.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the means for electronically receiving
20 comprises means for electronically receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware.

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19. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for electronically sending a command to the ERP application from the messaging middleware.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES and the ERP application comprises SAP.

5 21. The system of claim 18, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES.

22. The system of claim 18, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MSMQ.

23. The system of claim 17, wherein the ERP application comprises SAP.

10 24. The system of claim 17, wherein the ERP application comprises BAAN.

25. The system of claim 17, wherein the front end application comprises a browser.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a global computer network.

15 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the means for electronically receiving comprises means for electronically receiving by the ERP application the sales order from messaging middleware, and wherein the means for automatically returning comprises:

means for sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging middleware;

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means for forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a global computer network site server on the global computer network; and

5 means for returning the electronic order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser.

28. The system of claim 27, further comprising means for encrypting and decrypting the electronic order confirmation between the browser and the global computer network site server.

29. The system of claim 16, wherein the sales order is for a made-to-order item.

10 30. The system of claim 16, wherein the sales order is for an out-of-stock item.

31. At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of providing an electronic order confirmation in an electronic transaction, comprising:

5 electronically receiving a sales order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic environment;

obtaining an electronic order confirmation, comprising an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery, within the private electronic environment while the purchase waits; and

automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the private electronic environment to the public electronic environment for providing to the purchaser.

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32. The at least one program storage device of claim 31, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a front end application, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a back end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by the back end ERP application the sales order from the front end application, wherein the obtaining comprises obtaining the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application, and wherein the automatically returning comprises automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application to the front end application.

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33. The at least one program storage device of claim 32, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware.

34. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, further comprising electronically sending a command to the ERP application from the messaging middleware.

35. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES and the ERP application comprises SAP.

5 36. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES.

37. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, wherein the messaging middleware comprises MSMQ.

10 38. The at least one program storage device of claim 32, wherein the ERP application comprises SAP.

39. The at least one program storage device of claim 32, wherein the ERP application comprises BAAN.

40. The at least one program storage device of claim 32, wherein the front end application comprises a browser.

15 41. The at least one program storage device of claim 40, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a global computer network.

42. The at least one program storage device of claim 41, wherein the electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by the ERP application the sales order from messaging middleware, and wherein the automatically returning comprises:

sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging middleware;

forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a global computer network site server on the global computer network; and

5 returning the electronic order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser.

43. The at least one program storage device of claim 42, further comprising encrypting and decrypting the electronic order confirmation between the browser and the global computer network site server.

10 44. The at least one program storage device of claim 31, wherein the sales order is for a made-to-order item.

45. The at least one program storage device of claim 31, wherein the sales order is for an out-of-stock item.